

2153



00862.002473.

PATENT APPLICATION

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:)
 : Examiner: K. Parton
 : SHUICHI NAKAMURA)
 : Group Art Unit: 2153
 : Application No.: 09/161,404)
 : Filed: September 28, 1998)
 : For: INFORMATION PROVIDING)
 : SYSTEM, APPARATUS)
 : METHOD AND STORAGE)
 : MEDIUM : September 5, 2002

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Technology Center 2100

Commissioner for Patents
 Washington, D.C. 20231

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Sir:

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.56, Applicant respectfully directs the Examiner's attention to the documents listed below and on the enclosed Form PTO-1449. A copy of each document so listed is enclosed.

Japan 8-037682
 Japan 9-178833
 Japan 9-166450
 Japan 9-153054
 Japan 9-231244

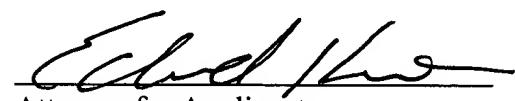
These documents were cited during prosecution of a Japanese application from which the above-identified application claims priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119, namely Japan 9-267366. A copy of a Japanese Office Action dated June 7, 2002 is enclosed.

English language abstracts for the above-listed documents have been located and are enclosed for the Examiner's consideration. The concise explanation of relevance for each of these documents is believed to be satisfied by the enclosed English abstracts. See MPEP § 609.

Inasmuch as the present application has received an Office Action on the merits, but has not yet received any of a final Office Action, a Notice Of Allowance, or an action that otherwise close prosecution of the application, this Information Disclosure Statement is filed under 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(c). Accordingly, in view of the date of the Japanese Office Action, Applicant submits under 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e) that each document in this Information Disclosure Statement was first cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement. Accordingly, the Examiner is urged to study this information in its entirety and to form an independent determination of the materiality of the information to the claimed invention. Additionally, the Examiner is requested to indicate that this information has been considered by initialing the appropriate portion of Form PTO-1449.

Applicants' undersigned attorney may be reached in our Costa Mesa, California office at (714) 540-8700. All correspondence should continue to be directed to our below-listed address.

Respectfully submitted,



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